

REMARKS

The original parent application (U.S. Patent Appln. Ser. No. 09/314,847, filed May 19, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,365,410) was originally filed with 48 Claims. Patent No. 6,365,410 contains Claims that correspond to Claims 1-3, 11-24, and 28-48 of the originally filed application. In the currently pending Divisional application (U.S. Patent Appln. Ser. No. 10/037,677) to which the present Continuation application claims priority was filed on October 23, 2001, all of the Claims were cancelled and new Claims 49-58 (which correspond to originally filed Claims 4-10 and 25-27) were added.

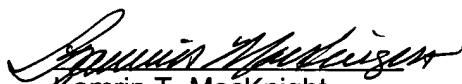
In the present Preliminary Amendment, original Claims 1-48 are cancelled and new Claims 49-71 have been added. These new Claims are directed toward the production of heterologous proteins by evolved microorganisms. As these Claims find more than sufficient support throughout the Specification as filed, no new matter is added in these new Claims.

In addition to the new Claims, Applicants have amended the Specification to provide the ATCC accession numbers for the deposited microorganism. Additionally, the SEQ ID NOS have been corrected. No new matter is introduced by these amendments.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this application, he is encouraged to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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